

OLLI CLASSES CANCELLED DUE TO WORLDWIDE PANDEMIC!

For the first time in its history, OLLI (formerly FULIR) has cancelled all spring classes and activities. This stunning announcement on March 11 from OLLI Director, Nancy Kennedy, is in response to widespread schedule changes at Furman due to this worldwide pandemic and to advice from medical experts. Please monitor OLLI's Facebook page and check your email regularly for announcements.



Alan Weinberg and Bob Howell share a love of hiking, nature, and photography - p. 6

OLLI Life

MARCH 2020 - Issue #11

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Furman - where active minds play

A wonderful day in the NEIGHBORHOOD



OLLI rocks!
From City Range (29607) to Bocca Pure Italian (29609) to Topsoil (29690) to Soby's (29601) and all around the town-oh, more than 240 OLLI members gathered

February 18 for Happy Hour fellowship with neighbors gathered by zip code. Our *first* HHBZC!

Says OLLI Social Committee Chair, Naomi Downing, "Our Social Committee learns a lot from other OLLIs around the region, and Happy Hour by Zip Code was one of those ideas that seemed just right for our growing (2500+) membership drawn from every corner of Greenville County. A neighbor or two from each area found a venue, arranged the logistics, put out the balloons, and greeted their neighbors for the 4 - 6 pm snacking and sipping fun. Consensus from all seven venues: "Let's do this again!"

New: What's YOUR Passion? See p. 7

AN OLLI FIRST!

In January, Dr. Mary Ebbott (center), Dean of Faculty and Classics Professor at College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, became our first speaker at OLLI's new *Osher Lecture Series*, a partnership with Furman faculty to bring top scholars to our campus. Pictured with Dean Ebbott and OLLI Director Nancy Kennedy is Dr. Chris Blackwell, Furman Classics Department. Dr. Ebbott spent two days with Classics students and faculty.



Ebbott delighted her OLLI audience with the story of the very first time — years into her journey into Greek classics — she came across a reference to Odysseus's sister. It was a *WHAT???* kind of moment that set her upon a trail of scholarly sleuthing, looking for additional poetic and narrative texts to shed light on this almost-entirely-unknown woman, Ktimene. Ebbott's literary adventures led her to a rich acquaintance with Achilles's sister, Polydora, as well; and with an entertaining grasp of word matches, real and literary wars and politics, love, bride gifts and marriage, and loss, she proved herself an able scholar and a gifted story teller.



WINE BLOG

Hey, Bernie and Cindy,
Will you recommend a wine region within a day's drive from Greenville?

See Bernie's answer on page 12.

Also visit Bernie's Wine Blog: scwinejoe.blogspot.com

People I have been in classes with for years turned out to be neighbors I never really knew!

Geraldine Weyermann
 OLLI's first Happy Hour by Zip Code event

OLLI Council News and Notes

JIM NICHOLSON IS NEW CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

Curriculum Committee co-chairs Lance Renault and Cindy Brothers were given a special task this year: find your replacements. Now they are pleased to announce the addition of Jim Nicholson to their team. Nicholson will replace Renault in the fall, bringing a love of learning and joy of teaching to this important position. (If you attended Nicholson's *Read and Explore* talk about Texas music, you've already discovered this master of many talents; we want more, Jim!). According to Renault, "Jim has terrific technical skills and facility with video and Google Drive, which make him a good classroom-technology coach for our presenters. Thanks, Jim, for stepping up and into this vital position."

Thanks, Instructor Support Committee

OLLI has an average of 15 new instructors each term. These instructors receive support from a member of the Instructor Support Committee (ISC) led by Judy Pearson. Committee members include Kathy Brown, Cheryl Garrison, Maggie Manning, Bob McGrath, Paula Schubert Russell and Emmie Watson. ISC members observe classes, recognize what's working, and provide technical and other support as needed. They host a coffee for new instructors and a lunch for all instructors each term with the assistance of volunteers Judy Brook, Sue Miller and Sue Renault.

OLLI members interested in sharing ideas and expertise with the Instructor Support Committee should contact Judy Pearson at judypearson@bellsouth.net.

ASK Nancy:

I've got an idea for a class I'd like to teach. Where do I start?



"The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time." Abraham Lincoln

If you have a great idea and a passion for your subject, we'd love for you to join the cadre of volunteer instructors. Just go to the OLLI website, look for Instructor Resources, then Forms, and locate the Course Proposal Forms (CPFs). Click on the link. Fill in the blanks, and submit your form electronically. It will be directed to the appropriate subcommittee relative to subject matter (13 subcommittees). These committees meet regularly to review CPFs.

Susan Rae is the staff member who works with Curriculum, and she is always happy to talk to you about course ideas. Once your course is accepted, Pam Roberson oversees instructor support and is a great resource for all you need to be successful in the classroom.

Once your course is approved, you'll hear from our Instructor Support Committee, which helps with frequently asked questions (How do I make copies?), provides preparation support (What's a syllabus and how do I get one?), and helps with teaching issues (How does the AV in the classrooms work, anyway?).

OLLI, yeah!



Happy-Hour-by-Zip-Code neighbors agreed: "Let's do this event again!"

"I was thinking about giving up chocolate, but I am not a quitter!" - seen on the window of an English chocolate shop

We ♥ FEEDBACK! Thanks for your comments about our Jan, 2020 issue.

Enjoyed ALL articles but (really) liked reading about the "female statues" around Greenville and your Paris travels. BZ; Article on Paris was fun and informative. KA; I am new to Greenville and reading the **OLLILife** article about Judy's thrift store shopping. Which two stores does she frequent? I'm a longtime thrift store shopper but don't know where to go in my new home town. Marsh H; (Here's the answer, Marsh: Safe Harbor on Pleasantburg and Junior League's Nearly New on Antrim, off Laurens). SSR; **OLLILife** is now so good I don't have to attend classes or events...just stay home and read **OLLILife**. GP; (Thanks, GP, so ... you...just, like... read *OL in your PJs*?) SR; Congrats to OLLI member Allen Stevenson (January **OLLILife** article about SCWA Writers Group). His short story "Hank and Margaret" was accepted for inclusion in SCWA's *Catfish Stew Anthology*. DM; What a fabulous issue of **OLLILife** to launch the New Year. Love the variety of interesting articles tapping various OLLI members' perspectives. EW.

What's YOUR Passion? See p. 7

Live well: Eat Your SUPERFOODS! Walk with a friend

Superfoods

Christina Freerman, RN, BSN, Prisma Health Upstate, speaking at a Heart-Health bonus event on Valentines Day, advised us: "Eat Superfoods." They are rich in omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins, potassium, flavonoids and all manner of health benefits. Here's the list: oatmeal, black beans, blueberries, oranges, walnuts and almonds, dark chocolate, whole grains, peppers, chia seeds and flax seeds, salmon, and red wine (one glass per day). Bon appétit!

The Magic Pill

On the subject of *Stress*, Freeman offered "the magic pill": *Walk with someone you care about/who cares about you and with whom you can have a good laugh.*

Staff and guests

Thank you, **OLLILife** staff:

Bernie and Cindy Showman, wine blog; Jim Hammond, OLLI all around; Marie Eldridge, member profiles; Diana Miel, special assignments, OLLI/Furman connections; Betty Jo Shaw, SIGs; Anne Doyle, bonus events; Kathleen Allen, travel editor, special features; Carole Eisen, proofreading; Mary Kay Kantz, special assignments; Valerie Sosnowski, *What's Your Passion?* Watch for more from Valerie who will join us as a regular contributor in May.

Thanks, guest contributors:

Lynda Fredsell, essay; Janet Aguilar, essay; Emmie Watson, poetry; Jerry Gibbons, Connie Memolo, Betty Jo Shaw, Tribute memories; Howell and Weinberg photos by Linda Hosek; Naomi Downing, Happy Hour info; Kathy Roed, volunteer news; Greg Peters, **Furman Engaged**.

THANKS, DIANA MIEL

For two years, Diana Miel — in addition to her thoughtful book reviews — has written our **OLLILife** ♥ *Furman* column. She wrote about the Furman Gardens (this issue), Furman's Library, Japanese Temple, and Bell Tower. She introduced us to Bridges to a Brighter Future and the competitive (think, Shark Tank) Innovation Hour. In almost every issue, she shared her abiding instincts and enthusiasm for what makes our combined OLLI/Furman campus a treasure trove of experiences. With this issue Diana takes off her news cap in order to take on other activities. Her contributions will be missed. Marie Eldridge will replace Diana at **OLLILife** ♥ *Furman*.



Almost ninety OLLI members live at The Woodlands at Furman. They are "a lively community of fascinating people who are keeping their active lifestyle and making it even better," says The Woodlands website.

Recently, OLLI Director Nancy Kennedy had an opportunity to celebrate groundbreaking for a Woodlands expansion. At center in photo is OLLI member and Woodlands resident Sharon Heinz.

OLLIGigs

Going to class isn't enough to make friends .
Happy Hour introduced me to new OLLI members
in a fun way." Bocca Happy Hour fan

"If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito." Dalai Lama

Wine Tasting with Bernie and Cindy

by Anne Doyle, *OLLILife* Bonus Event Reporter
February, 2020

In this Wines of the Eastern U.S. session added for Bonus Event wait-listers, Bernie and Cindy Showman taught us a bit of wine history:

From Muscadines found by early settlers in Virginia to the 1817 Norton Grape (an "acquired taste");

to Rausse's successful grafting in 1976 of American root stock;

and to the European Vinifera grapes, which are still growing at Jefferson Vineyards and Monticello!

Virginia has 400 wineries, growing hybrids including Chamboucin, Vidal Blanc, Baco Noir, Corot Noir, Seyval Blanc, and Traminette.

Of the wines we tasted, my favorite was the Yadkin, NC, Shelton Vineyards 2017 Petit Verdot Two Five Nine. Delightful!

Half the fun of wine-tasting is to compare tastes and aromas with classmates. Woody? Crisp? Fruity? Everyone leaves with new skills and vocabularies.



Photo by Anne Doyle

Editor's Note: Bernie and Cindy Showman are experienced wine aficionados and repeat instructors at OLLI. Check out their wine blog online scwinejoe.blogspot.com and also in our quarterly issues of *OLLILife*. Want to ask B & C a wine question? Contact us: sue.renault@gmail.com

SIG reporter, Betty Jo Shaw, visits OLLI's Big Question SIG

As with some other OLLI SIGs (Special Interest Groups), the Big Question SIG developed out of a class at OLLI. The impetus was a desire to continue the conversation and exploration of ideas.

The SIG has been meeting for about three years since David Rutledge's class about atheism. Participants explore questions, not topics, and the only requirement for membership is willingness to listen. Members avoid politics, but choose questions about abstract issues like ethics and art suggested and led by members of the group.

The question when I visited was, "Is it wrong to genetically engineer humans?" Participants share some background material by email and then discuss the question on Thursday afternoons in the downstairs conference room. The main contact is Kevin McMurtrey, one of the founding members, who can be reached at kevinmcmurtrey@gmail.com.



Photo by Betty Jo Shaw

Heavy-duty deliberations: *The question when I visited was, "Is it wrong to genetically engineer humans?"* Pondering, left to right, are Anastasia Komarova, Pat McCarthy, Maggie Manning, and Paula Mathis.

New: What's YOUR Passion? See p. 7

OLLI adventures



OLLI...where
friendships are
born

Remember, today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday." Dale Carnegie

One Really Big Thing I Learned Behind the Scenes, Greenville County Library System

PART I: Discovery Manager Jed Cridland-Hughes guided twenty OLLI bibliophiles through the back rooms of downtown Greenville's Hughes Library last month. The library, originally housed in a "store front" along Coffee Street, began in 1921 with 500 volumes. Today it has 719,000 books and 165,000 AV items. It has barcode readers, scanners and high tech sorters that make us feel like time travelers in a universe, once imagined only in sci-fi visions of artificial intelligence. The library has history records, documents, microfiches, old maps, census books and every imaginable resource to track down names of slaves or trace your personal genealogy or track the history of an old store in Pickens.

On the second floor at Hughes are more than 40 computers where you can access up to three hours/day of free service. Or, with your library card, you can even send an email from home with an attached document you want printed (standard printing charges) and arrange to pick up your printed document.

PART II: Now here's the really big thing I learned: if you're stuck on your genealogy research and need a little guidance to track the best resources, you can **BOOK A LIBRARIAN** for an hour to help you restart your search (at the library, of course; not in your own home). If you want to upgrade your website, using Adobe tools, but need a helper, you can **BOOK A LIBRARIAN** for an hour of consulting in the Tech Center. If you want to use the Libby app to download ebooks directly to your phone, or start reading the **New York Times**, free, but the tech challenge makes you queasy, you can **BOOK A LIBRARIAN** for an hour. Says Janet Aguilar, our Library Tour liaison, "I do it all the time!"

Sue Renault, editor

OLLI Travelers Explore Appalachian Traditions

Evenings at Lake Junaluska, located in the Blue Ridge Mountains, are filled with memories of those who came before and those who are present with us today, says Kay Miller. As participants of the *Women of Appalachia: Traditions, Stories and Songs*, 22 OLLI members explored images of the past, present and future in the beautiful fall setting of the Appalachian highlands.

Speakers like Lee Knight and Ennis Pruitt breathed life into the stories, music, songs and crafts of the region with an emphasis on the roles of women in settling this region.

From the culture of the Cherokee to the legacy of Scots-Irish settlers, this intriguing history and culture were presented from women's points of view.



OLLI members enjoyed field trips to historic Franklin, NC, to explore the Scottish Tartan Museum. They journeyed to the Museum of the Cherokee to view exhibits of Native American artifacts and heritage. In the Great Smoky Mountains National Park they toured the Mountain Farm Museum to view firsthand the daily lives of early Appalachian women.

Music and crafts were integrated throughout the week with songs, instrumentals and textile demonstrations. Morning classes, afternoon field trips, and evening recitals and sing-alongs provided engaged learning for everyone. Miller was amazed by the services that contemporary Cherokee provide to their community through their casino resources. "College is no longer beyond the resources of young Cherokee students today," she says.

The Lake Junaluska conference center proved an accommodating and restful retreat for this Furman OLLI adventure. *(Report from Kathleen Allen interview with Kay Miller. Photos by Heidi Wright).*

Thank you, Bob Howell and Alan Weinberg: 11 years, 21 terms, 180 classes

by Kathleen Allen

Jones Gap, Table Rock, Pounding Mill Overlook, Blue Ridge Parkway, and Eastatoe Falls are well-known Appalachian landscapes to past and current members of OLLI's Nature and Landscape Photography class. For 11 years, 21 terms, 180 classes, members of Nature and Landscape have hiked and shot scenes on the Blue Ridge escarpment. Along the way members have improved their photography, learned to love the mountains that have captivated Bob Howell and Alan Weinberg, and made lifelong friends.

Bob and Alan met through Bill Bozeman's hiking class in 2003. Their friendship grew as they learned they both graduated from NC State, both loved the outdoors and hiking and both enjoyed capturing what they saw on these hikes. In the spring their attention turned to wildflowers and waterfalls. In the fall, to nature's ever-changing color palette and waterfalls. Flora and fauna were always in the mix.

Fall term, 2009, they submitted a proposal for a Nature and Landscape Photography class. Each term they met over dinner (and an occasional bottle of wine) and plotted their itinerary. Their goal was to provide time for capturing photographs: half the hiking distance, more time to shoot. They divided the responsibilities, always focusing on each other's strengths. Bob knew the trails and where the wildflowers bloomed. Alan enjoyed sharing his photographic skills and organizing the program. They both scouted the hikes and used their

connections and research to get updates on weather, bloom times, peak waterfall power and safety concerns.

The class began with 12 participants. Over time, due to its popularity, Bob and Alan allowed more nature-loving photographers to join. Often over 20 OLLI members would participate in one outing. Logistics became an issue. Finding venues that would



accommodate 20 photographers and their tripods, carpooling arrangements and safety concerns kept Bob and Alan on their toes. Climate change impacted the seasons. Wildflowers bloomed earlier, fall colors arrived later than terms could accommodate. But the camaraderie of classmates, enjoyment of nature, improvements in technology and love of photography trumped all challenges they faced.

For the past several years, Greg Peters has been a co-instructor for Nature and Landscape Photography and volunteered to assist with the class at their request. If Bob or Alan had other commitments, Greg was there to fill

in. A friend from hiking and photography, he added additional perspectives, skills and sense of humor (if not navigational direction) to each outing.

As Bob and Alan reflect on their 11 years as Nature and Landscape Photography instructors, they say they have loved their shared experiences with so many new friends. They are proud of their classmates whose skills have

improved immensely over the decade of classes. Members are now entering juried competitions with their nature and landscape photographs. Bob and Alan were instrumental in fund raising, planning and building the new Herring Center. The "OLLI Building" represents a tremendous upgrade for photography classes and galleries.

As Bob and Alan retire from Nature and Landscape, this class and their leadership will be sorely missed. Who can forget Alan's aphorisms: "It's not the wand, it's the magician." Or "No one has to like your photograph but you." Bob loved to tease his classmates. He always admonished members that five minutes late resulted in a left-behind photographer, and, "I can always lose 10% on any hike." Of course, he never did.

Photos by Linda Hosek

SHARE: Send us your best memory about Bob and Alan's great adventures: sue.renault@gmail.com

On a Line from Frost by Emmie Watson

I have been one acquainted with the night.
 Little grandson, overnight, side by side
 we talk of this dark night offering little light
 without a Goodnight Moon. His eyes open wide,

nightfall fears hover as he cuddles close
 and asks, "Grammie, at night, are you afraid
 of nightmare monsters and scary ghosts?"
 Now forming a nighttime tale to persuade

little boy that brave knights soon will appear
 to banish shadow nightlife in the hall.
 Night Riders, they drive away that old fear
 of nightmares under the bed in space so small.

Breathing softly, little boy, his nightshirt askew,
 doesn't hear the owl murmuring the night's news.

(Sonnet form: first line taken from a well-known sonnet; repeat one word from that first line in each following line in the new sonnet.)

From Arthur McMaster's Poetry Writing Class, Fall 2019

Déjà Vu by Lynda Fredsell

August, 1960. Registration day at Vandy. As a rising senior, I know the drill by heart, but this time I can't find the right place to register. I run all over campus searching for the registration office. Meanwhile, the courses I need for graduation are no longer open. Panic attack!

I wake up with my heart pounding. It's that bad dream again.

* * *

August, 2019. Registration day at OLLI. Online registration begins at 8 am tomorrow morning, and my stomach is in knots tonight. I go to the computer and test my password on the website – twice. Unable to concentrate on reading, I head to bed early wondering if I set the alarm clock for the right time. Just to be sure, I test it before climbing into bed fully dressed, in case the online program crashes tomorrow and I have to hurry over to the campus to register in person.

The alarm goes off at 7:15 am. I jump out of bed, grab a quick cup of coffee, and run to the computer, which I left on all night. The OLLI website is up and running. I put in my password, place my fingers on the keyboard, and watch the minutes tick slowly away in the corner of the screen: 7:56, 7:57, 7:58, 7:59, **BINGO!** Taking a deep breath, I say to myself, "You can do it, Lynda, but you gotta be fast! Ready, set, **GO!**"

Funny – I feel like I've been here before.....in a bad dream.

SHARE: Have you had Déjà Vu moments? Or any other experiences you'd like to share in a **Centerstage** 250-word personal essay? Contact us: sue.renault@gmail.com

What's your passion?

Animal rights? Get-out-the-vote? Affordable housing? **OLLILife** wants to know what stirs our members to action. Tell us in 60 words or less what gets your brain to thinking, your heart to pounding, or your fingers to tapping out letters to the editor? Here's what **OLLILife's** new **OLLIsMe** columnist says:

What's YOUR Passion, Valerie Sosnowski?

*My passion is to advocate for cleanup of our SC roadsides to beautify our state. I use an app called **Greenville County Litter Ends Here** to submit requests for the county to clean up litter on specific road(sides). I encourage others to use this app and join together for this worthy cause.*

Tell us about your passion: sue.renault@gmail.com

What's it all about, OLLI?

Artifacts from the family farm along the Tyger River send Jim Hammond on a search for info about the region's earliest inhabitants



7500-year-old stone sparks Jim's interest

Growing up on a family farm overlooking the South Tyger River, I always had a sense of the history of the place. Sometimes my grandfather's plow would kick up a stone that might be an arrowhead. Most farm kids had a few stones they considered to be the remnants of the people who lived here before us.

But that history never really took much shape until the second half of my life. It is only in the past year that my idea of who occupied this land where I have returned has taken hold of my imagination.

Two decades ago, I found in the front yard of my grandparents' home a piece of stone clearly crafted by human hands, perhaps very old. Archeologists at the University of South Carolina confirmed it to be a type known as a Morrow Mountain point, probably 7500 years old.

Last summer, while cleaning out my father's workshop, I discovered a box of stone artifacts: a stone knife and several arrow or spear points. I had never seen them. My Aunt Polly, Dad's only surviving sibling, told me he showed them to her and said they were "plowed up" on the family farm. Another visit to the archeologists at USC revealed this little collection to range in age from 2,500 to 6,000 years ago or more.

Recently, I visited a friend of my brother to see his artifacts and was

blown away by the number and variety of artifacts he had collected on land once farmed by my family: dozens of spear and arrow points, two stone axes, pottery shards and a large piece of a bowl. And decorative stone pieces made to wear on a rawhide string.

It has become increasingly clear that there once existed a settlement on the river bank at our farm. And based upon the overlay of artifacts, 2,000 to 7,000 years ago, the site had been used by native people for thousands of years.

So, why was there no settlement where I live when white people moved into the Upstate? There were Cherokee towns in the present Pickens and Oconee counties, but none were reported by early hunters and settlers in this area north of Greer.

My research suggests likely reasons for this place being empty in the 16th and 17th centuries. The first major contact with the native people of South Carolina was 1521, when the Spaniard Lucas Vasquez de Ayllon captured 150 people in the vicinity of Winyah Bay to be enslaved. In 1526, Ayllon returned with 500 Spanish men and women to establish a settlement. Before the year ended, 150 surviving Spaniards abandoned the settlement.

In 1540, when DeSoto's expedition descended upon the natives near present-day Columbia, the people were found to possess tools, weapons and belongings left

behind by Ayllon's settlers. It is likely Ayllon's party left behind seeds of the greatest calamity to strike the native people: smallpox.

Waves of smallpox swept the villages of the Southeast, often killing half or more of the inhabitants.

Researchers have documented that the 16th century brought the greatest droughts in a thousand years.

With the settlement of Charleston, European slave traders paid native tribes in weapons, tools and cloth to capture their enemies and sell them to the slavers.

Two centuries of European onslaught depopulated the back country. The Cherokee were colonizing the mountains. As the Catawba were slowly destroyed by the white settlers, the Cherokee were pushing their settlement into South Carolina. But the factors that robbed the Catawba of their primacy hit the Cherokee. ***One 18th century smallpox plague killed half of the population of the lower towns. In 1775, the South Carolina militia destroyed the lower towns, took Cherokee lands and ended organized tribal life in the state.***

The land where I now live had become empty of native towns long before the white settlers moved in. The tribes had become so depopulated that they could not occupy all the land, nor defend it from encroaching Europeans.

OLLI Furman by Diana Miel

Furman Farm is a model for sustainability practices

Under the direction of Bruce Adams, the Furman Farm has become a model and magnet for much larger schools, such as Princeton, as word spreads that innovative and exciting sustainability practices are happening here at Furman.

New this summer will be aquaponics, a managed system which will grow plants and fish within a nutrient and temperature-managed closed system year round.

The Farm has evolved into a model of campus food sustainability by selling the produce to the Daniel

Dining Hall and using the proceeds to run the farm. The dining hall, and all the other food service facilities on campus, including the Herring Center, provide 52 tons of excess food, food waste, and compostables to the farm to generate compost to nourish the next generation of crops. Vermiculture, using worms for composting and to enrich the soil directly through their presence, and bee-keeping are practices employed at the farm to contribute natural cycle of food production.

The farm is also the site of academic labs conducted by Adams for students majoring in biology, earth sciences, and sustainability. Furman students also work on the farm, earning money and learning organic methods and practices.

Bruce Adams with Furman students at the Furman Farm.



OLLiisMe! by Marie Eldridge

Magda DeSantis Takes the Fear Out of Cooking



As a cook, OLLI's Magda DeSantis shows no fear. She has prepared stews and stuffed cabbage in her native Romania, taught Italian cooking to 4th and 5th grade girls, and served hamburgers at Hardee's. Now she hosts *No Fear Cooking* on YouTube.

Magda's show, which debuted September, 2019, is a family affair. Her husband Blaine introduces the recipe. Magda talks about the ingredients and cooks. Their son Nathaniel films and edits. "We feature one recipe per show, and don't practice," said Magda. "Seven hundred people watched the January episode."

Magda emigrated from Romania in 1984. Despite her limited English, her work ethic helped her succeed. After her first job at Hardee's in Pennsylvania, she worked as a Holiday Inn hostess, house cleaner and lab technician, sold Mary Kay cosmetics and provided childcare. But she has always loved cooking.

Magda and Blaine, an OLLI instructor, enjoy cooking together. They regularly host Nona's (Grandma's) lunch for 12 to 14 at their home. They prepare the main course and guests bring sides and wine. "It's like having family lunch at your grandparents' house," Magda says. Because they love Thanksgiving, they also invite up to 22 people to their holiday feast each year.

"Cooking classes at OLLI inspired me to do the YouTube show," says Magda. "I love it, it's fun and I am still learning."

Do you know an interesting OLLI member we should interview? Let us know: sue.renault@gmail.com



Thanks, Judy Aten, Margot Stewart, Gary Aten and others who enhanced 2020's Read and Explore program through their leadership, research, and storytelling.



"The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity." Dorothy Parker

A Personal Essay:

Before Matthew was born with Down syndrome, I had never thought how it would be to have such a grandchild. ❤️ OLLI member Janet Aguilar (GranJan)



Before my grandson Matthew was born with Down syndrome, I had given no thought to how it would be to have such a grandchild. I had rarely known a special needs child on an intimate level.

My immediate concern was for my distraught daughter who called to let me know the sad news. And it was sad news at

that time, having been sprung on her and her husband after her tests had been normal. I was concerned about how I'd react when seeing him. Would I be caring? How disabled would he be? Would I be able to love him? How would life be with a disabled person as part of it? But when I met Matthew a few days later, I fell in love with the cutest, sweetest little boy and have been in love with him ever since.

He didn't speak until he was almost 3 (sign language) but once begun, has never stopped. He's graduated from high school, works, volunteers, has a YouTube

video (see link below), and he's now embarking on a speaking tour. He's high functioning (less mental retardation), which makes his life easier for him and his family and friends. Loving Matt is easy. He is special but he's really just one of the family.

One thing I have learned from Matt is perseverance. Children with DS need more repetition than is typical, so that's a part of life. In addition, he has health issues and is somewhat limited physically; he takes this in stride. He's a happy and well-adjusted young man who sets an example for the rest of us. He's taught me a lot about how to love, especially someone who is different. And I am a much better person for that lesson

Editor's Note: Treat yourself to a smile. Watch Matthew's **TedX Talk:** Click the link https://www.ted.com/talks/matthew_schwab_how_i_know_including_people_with_down_syndrome_is_a_good_thing. You will know why "GranJan" is so proud of this remarkable young man.

Do you have a Personal Essay? Tell us your story (260 words or less): sue.renault@gmail.com



Winners! Do you know the world's top four oceans, in order by size? These folks did and won first place at OLLI's March 3 Trivia Night.

Universal story themes include heroic journeys, pursuit of faith, good vs evil, and hiding behind masks. Students in Donnalynn Hess's **Power of the Story Teller** created masks to tell their own stories and share their favorite literary,



poetic, and performance experiences and heroes.

Read **OLLILife** online:

- Enter furman.edu/olli in your "address box."
- At the OLLI website "front page," scroll down to MEMBER RESOURCES.
- Click on MEMBER RESOURCES then scroll to NEWSLETTERS.
- Click on NEWSLETTERS then scroll to select the **OLLILife** issue you want to read.
- Enjoy.

OLLIClass

Volunteers are the HEART of OLLI@Furman!

Want to share your talents, skills, and ideas through one of many volunteer opportunities? Contact Kathy Roed, Volunteer Chair: kcroed@hotmail.com or 864-836-8225. Learn more about supporting the success of our OLLI programs in the year ahead.

If you boil a funny bone it becomes a laughing stock. That's humerus.

Facebook post, Thanks, Bill Fuller

February Fare: Terrific Talks

OLLI member and journalist **James Hammond**, left, and colleague Chris Weston (retired managing editor), intertwined stories of the South's bumpy journey towards desegregation with an editorial history of *The Greenville News* recently. Hammond's stories added local perspective to our *Read and Explore* activity this year and the role of newspapers in our book, *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles. Most of us in Jim's audience were nostalgic newspaper consumers, unabashedly grieving the old days of morning coffee taken with our favorite hometown papers, confident that advertiser dollars would keep our newsprint habit fed forever.



Dr. Cynthia King, Chair of Furman's Communications Studies, right, took us on quite a different adventure, exploring how African-American families have been represented on TV since its earliest days, especially in family sit-coms. The limited "frames" through which we viewed these characters and *stereotyping* left us — for decades — with "flat" images of black families ... images that, today, are reflecting more diverse voices and more fully-developed portrayals. King's sweeping and buoyant presentation left one OLLI member saying, "This should be an eight-week class!"



The Spirit of a Goose

Some of you have got the spirit of a goose, and some have got the spirit of a snake.

We'll have our rights. You may hiss as much as you like, but it is coming.

--Sojourner Truth, Women's Rights Convention: New York City: 1853

Haudenosaunee...who?

Equal rights for women?
Where did such ideas come from?

Largely from the Haudenosaunee Confederacy (Iroquois Confederacy), the oldest living participatory democracy on earth, Lindas Kelly and Russ tell their class.

While most of our forefathers were bound, in their vision, by patriarchal systems and religious traditions of male privilege, the Haudenosaunee (located primarily in present-day New York, between Lake Erie and the Hudson River) had an established tradition of matrilineal society. The spiritual being "Sky Woman" was the catalyst for the earth, and Confederacy law ensured women's political authority. It is no wonder that many of the North's early suffragists such as Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton were influenced by the Haudenosaunees and ceaseless in their efforts to achieve equal rights for American women.

In our photo, Linda Kelly and Linda Russ dress in white to commemorate the 100th anniversary this year of the passing of the 19th amendment guaranteeing all American women the right to vote.



Linda Kelly and Linda Russ have been teaching OLLI classes together since 2006 and were teacher colleagues and friends for many years before that. Their classes are filled with copiously researched stories and anecdotes and lots of fun.

OLLI Remembers



Kip Seiber passed away December 22, 2019, at age 95. He was an avid tennis player and gifted story teller. His OLLI classmate Jerry Gibbons remembers that Kip, a WWII pilot, was particularly interested in classes about famous military blunders and often sat in the front row. Kip was a longtime “regular” at OLLI and moved to Woodlands after his wife “Mac” died in 2001 so he could be close to the classes he enjoyed.”

Marge Snyder passed away December 29, 2019, at age 89. She was an active woman whose interests included symphony, philanthropy, book club, gardening, and a love for learning at OLLI. Connie Memolo, who served with her on a Grants Committee, recalls that Marge loved to take campus walks if she was at OLLI during the lunch hour. Says Memolo, “ Marge was regarded as a very kind and welcoming person. I know that everyone who knew her will miss her smiling face and devoted contributions.”

OLLILife is published four times a year: January, March, May, and September. **OLLILife** editor is Sue Renault. We Love Feedback: sue.renault@gmail.com . **DEADLINE FOR May ISSUE is April 15** or sooner (*We fill up fast!*). Perhaps you'd like to contribute to **OLLILife**. Contact us for guidelines: sue.renault@gmail.com



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Furman, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, SC 29613-1511

Melody Nedrud, 69, passed away February 26, 2020. She joined OLLI about five years ago when she moved to Travelers Rest from Kalamazoo, Michigan. She was an avid member of Rogue Readers and took classes relating to Greenville and South Carolina history. She leaves her husband, James Stordahl, who was a “re-found” high school sweetheart. Friends and family will miss her spirit and kindness.
Tribute by Betty Jo Shaw

Furman students will present research April 7 at Timmons Arena

Furman Engaged! is an annual event where Furman students who have received research or internship funding present their discoveries to faculty, peers, and the public. The free program consists of oral presentations and poster exhibits, and is an opportunity for OLLI members to support Furman’s young scholars.

Save the date: This year’s event will be Tuesday, April 7, from 8:45 am - 5 pm at the Timmons Arena. For examples of the kinds of presentations that occur at *Furman Engaged!*, access the 2019 website at <https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/events/633/program-app/program>. Says Nancy, “It’s a terrific event.”

Greg and Linda Peters, Engaged

“Linda and I had the opportunity to attend the ‘Furman Engage’ event last year. It was a full day that was fun, educational and yes, engaging! The day started with an introduction in Daniel Auditorium hosted by Michelle Horota with two Furman students. These two talked about their engagement opportunities at Furman (internships, research, travel, etc.) and were so very impressive in doing so. Had we been employers we would have made job offers to these two amazing students on the spot.” GP

WINE BLOG

THE ANSWER (See front page for **THE QUESTION**): The Monticello Wine region centered around Charlottesville, VA, is one of the best in the Eastern US and is less than 400 miles away. Closer to home is the Yadkin Valley, NC, which is 150 miles from Greenville. This wine region west of Winston-Salem boasts about 40 wineries. There are wineries that specialize in Italian and French grapes as well as French-American hybrids. Three of the most popular wineries are Shelton Vineyards, Jolo Vineyards and Raffaldini Vineyards.

For more Bernie advice online: www.scwinejoe.blogspot.com

